

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PHNOM 00244 041238Z

20

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 INR-07 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 /023 W

----- 060553

O P 041155Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8802

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 244

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, CB

SUBJECT: FOURTH DAY OF KC DRY SEASON OFFENSIVE

REF: PHNOM PENH 177

1. SUMMARY: THE MAIN AREA OF CONCERN SHIFTED TODAY TO THE 7TH DIVISION AREA NORTH OF PHNOM PENH WHERE THE SITUATION IS CAUSE FOR SOME CONCERN. ELSEWHERE AROUND THE CITY AND ALONG THE MEKONG ACTIVITY TAILED OFF SOMEWHAT, AND GOOD PROGRESS WAS MADE IN CLEARING OPERATIONS NORTH OF ROUTE 4. END SUMMARY.

2. KC FORCES ON JANUARY 4 INCREASED PRESSURE ON THE 7TH DIVISION HQ AT PHNOM BASET AND HAVE ENCIRCLED THE DIVISION COMMAND POST. AIR STRIKES WERE CALLED IN ON THE ENEMY LATE IN THE AFTERNOON OF JANUARY 4, HOWEVER, AND REPORTEDLY WERE VERY EFFECTIVE, HAVING FORCED SOME ENEMY WITHDRAWALS. HOWEVER, THE SITUATION REMAINS SERIOUS AS THE ENEMY IS WELL DUG IN. REINFORCEMENTS ARE BEING MOVED TO THE AREA. THE MAIN MILITARY OIL DEPOT TO THE SOUTH REMAINS VULNERABLE TO ATTACKS BY FIRE. ON ROUTE 5 SOUTH OF OUDONG THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE CHANGE. A BRIDGE ON THE ROAD WAS RETAKEN WITH ONE 105 ARTILLERY PIECE REPORTED MISSING AND ANOTHER DAMAGED.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PHNOM 00244 041238Z

3. THE EAST BANK OF THE MEKONG OPPOSITE PHNOM PENH HAS BEEN RELATIVELY QUIET AS THE PARATROOP BATTALIONS ARE CONTINUING THEIR SWEEP OPERATION ALONG THE BANK AGAINST LIGHT RESISTANCE. THREE ROCKETS WERE FIRED FROM THIS AREA INTO THE CITY ON THE EVENING OF JANUARY 3, LANDING IN THE CITY'S CENTRAL MARKET AREA AND REPORTEDLY WOUNDING NINE CIVILIANS. (ANOTHER ROCKET, FIRED FROM THE NORTH-WEST, LANDED NEAR POCHENTONG AIRFIELD LATE JANUARY 3, CAUSING NO DAMAGE.)

4. THE SITUATION ALONG ROUTE 1 SOUTH OF PHNOM PENH WHERE THE KC CONTROL A FIFTEEN KILOMETER STRETCH OF ROAD REMAINED UNCHANGED. ALONG THE LOWER MEKONG PARALLELING ROUTE 1 TO THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE BORDER ENEMY ACTIVITY DIMINISHED CONSIDERABLY FROM THE LEVEL OF PREVIOUS DAYS. AT THE NARROW MEKONG RIVER "CHOKE POINT" (SEE REFTTEL) OF DEI DOH, ENEMY PRESSURE CONTINUES BUT THE DEFENDERS ARE HOLDING.

5. THE SITUATION ALONG ROUTE 4 WEST OF PHNOM PENH IS SHOWING GOOD PROGRESS. ELEMENTS OF THE 3RD DIVISION MOVING NORTH FROM THE ROAD SUCCEEDED IN RELIEVING THE ENCIRCLED FANK GARRISON AT TUOL LEAP ON JANUARY 4 INFLECTING HEAVY CASUALTIES ON THE ENEMY IN THE PROCESS. ROUTE 4 CONTINUES TO BE OPEN TO MILITARY TRAFFIC FROM PHNOM PENH TO KOMPONG SPEU. THERE ARE UNCONFIRMED REPORTS CIRCULATING AMONG THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS HERE OF A KC MASSACRE OF SOME 40-50 CIVILIANS AT ANG SNOUL IN THE EARLY STAGES OF THEIR EFFORT THERE, WHICH WE UNDERSTAND MAY BE SHOWN ON CBS TELEVISION EARLY NEXT WEEK.
DEAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, COMBAT OPERATIONS, COMBAT ZONES, COMBAT CASUALTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PHNOM00244
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750004-0621
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750177/aaaacqj.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 PHNOM PENH 177
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <08 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOURTH DAY OF KC DRY SEASON OFFENSIVE
TAGS: MOPS, CB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006